

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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TAGS:

SUBJECT: ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL POSITION

REF: AIRGRAM A216 DATED 11/19/73

1. SUMMARY: SECRETARY GENERAL VAN ENNEP PRESENTLY PREPARING POSITION TO PUT BEFORE COUNCIL ABOUT APPOINTING KEY POSITIONS IN SECRETARIAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL PAULUCCI'S TOUR COMES TO CLOSE AT END OF YEAR. GENERAL CONSENSUS IS THAT PAULUCCI HAS NOT BEEN EFFECTIVE DURING HIS TENURE. HOWEVER, ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN STRONG POSITION WITH SEC GEN DEMANDING HIS RESIGNATION OR, IF NOT, THAT ONE OF TWO OTHER POSSIBLE ITALIAN CANDIDATES BE SELECTED (QUALIFICATIONS UNKNOWN). ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON POSITION RECOMMENDED PARS 3 AND 4. END SUMMARY.

2. JAPAN AND CANADA HAD INITIALLY INFORMALLY PROPOSED WHAT APPEAR TO BE TWO STRONG CANDIDATES, KOBAYASHI AND HODDER. BOTH COUNTRIES OF OPINION THAT MORE NON-EUROPEAN REPRESENTATION DESIRABLE AT ASSISTANT SEC GEN LEVEL, IN ADDITION TO BELIEVING THAT PRESENT INCUMBENT LESS THAN SATISFACTORY. CANADA HAS JUST ADVISED US THAT CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS INFORMED VAN ENNEP THAT THEY ARE WITHDRAWING THEIR CANDIDATE
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BUT WILL STRONGLY SUPPORT JAPANESE CANDIDATE FOR REASONS ABOVE.

3. ALTHOUGH WE AGREE WITH THE GENERAL US PRACITCE OF NOT BECOMING DEEPLY INVOLVED IN SECRETARIAT STAFFING PROBLEMS, WE MAY BE REQUIED TO TAKE POSITION SOON. WE BELIEVE SECGEN IN HIS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DIRECTING AND COORDINATING WORK OF OECD MUST HAVE FULLY EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE AT TP LEVELS OF HIS STAFF. WE WOULD LIKE TO BE INSTRUCTED TO SO INFORM SECGEN AS FIRST PRIORITY CONSIDERATION IN US THINKING THIS SUBJECT. SECOND, THOUGH STILL MPORTANT, CONSIDERATION WOULD BE STRONG WISH THAT COMPOSITION OF GROUP AT TOP OF SECRETARIAT, FIVE OUT OF SIX OF WHICH ARE NOW FROM EC COUNTRIES, SHOULD MORE FAITHFLLY REFLECT ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIP, IF THIS CAN BE DONE AT NO SACRIFICE IN PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF PEOPLE INVOLVED.

4. ALTHOUGH NOT CLEAR TO US THAT ADDITINAL POSITION NOW WARRANTED IN TERMS OF WORK REQUIREMENTS, SECGEN IS CONSIDERING POSSIBLE COMPROMISE OF CREATING FOURTH ASST. SECGEN POSITION AND FILLING IT WITH JAPANESE CANDIDATE IN ORDER TO AVOID DESTRUCTIVE CONFRONTATION. WE HAVE PREFERENCE FOR RETAINING ONLY THREE POSITIONS AT THIS TIME WITH JAPANESE CANDIDATE BEING SUPPORTED TO EPLACE ITALIAN. HOWEVER, IF SECGEN CONCLUDES HE MUST ADD POSITION, BELIEVE THRERE MAY BE MERIT IN SUPPORTING HIM. DO NOT BELIEVE RETENTION OF PAULUCCI, WITH EXCUSION OF JAPANESE REPRESENTATION, IS SATISFACTORY OPTION.

5. WE SOLICIT ANY VIEWS WASHINGTON MAY HAVE AND REQUEST INSTRUCT- TIONS AS INDICATED ABOVEM WELL BEFORE COUCIL DISCUSSIONS DEC. 17 ON THIS POSITION AND TWO DEPUTY SECRETARIES-GENERAL POSITIONS.

DECONTROL FOLLTWINING DECEMBER 7, 1974.
BROWN

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